

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 13 and 25 are independent claims. Claims 1-3, 5, 13, 15, 17-19, 25, and 30 have been objected to for informalities. Claims 1-3, 6-13, and 17-30 stand rejected in the referenced office action. Claims 4-5 and 14-16 have been indicated as being allowable if rewritten as an independent claim.

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the substantive limitations of claim 4. Claim 4 has been canceled.

Claim 13 has been amended by incorporating the substantive limitations of claim 14. Claim 14 has been canceled.

Claim 25 has been amended by incorporating the substantive limitations of claim 14.

Claims 1-3, 5, 13, 17-19, 25, and 30 have been amended to correct typographic errors.

Claim 30 has been canceled.

No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Examiner's objections and rejections are addressed in substantially the same order as in the referenced office action.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claims 1-3, 5, 13, 17-19, 25, and 30 have been objected to for certain informalities. Claims 1-3, 5, 13, 17-19, 25, and 30 have been amended in a manner that is believed to address the objections.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-3, 6-13, and 17-30 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 over *Zhang et al.* (US 6502036). Claims 1, 13 and 25 are independent claims.

Claim 1, an independent claim, has been amended by including the substantive limitations of claim 4. Claim 4 was indicated in the office action as being allowable if rewritten as an independent claim. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-3, and 5-12 that depend upon claim 1 are patentable under 35 USC § 102 over *Zhang et al.* and the prior art of record.


Claim 13, an independent claim, has been amended by including the substantive limitations of claim 14. Claim 14 was indicated in the office action as being allowable if rewritten as an independent claim. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that claim 12 and claims 15-24 that depend upon claim 13 are patentable under 35 USC § 102 over *Zhang et al.* and the prior art of record.

Claim 25, and independent claim, has been amended by including the substantive limitations of claim 14. Applicant submits that claim 25 and claims 26-29 that depend upon claim 25 are patentable under 35 USC § 102 over *Zhang* et al. and the prior art of record for the same reasons that claim 13 is patentable under 35 USC § 102 over *Zhang* et al. and the prior art of record.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees for this document to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 (584-28417-US).

Respectfully submitted,

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